**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1   1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)——1. A method of operating a switch for frames in a

2   computer network, comprising:

3          receiving a frame (the received frame) at a port of said switch, said received

4   frame containing one or more indicia of frame type designation;

5          deriving a virtual local area network (derived VLAN) value in response to said

6   one or more indicia of frame type designation;

7          accessing a forwarding data base with said derived VLAN value to determine a

8   destination address; and,

9          forwarding, in response to said derived VLAN value, said received frame to an

10  output port for transmission to the destination.


1   2. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 further comprising, said forwarding step for-

2   warding in response to said derived VLAN value and said destination.


1   3. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 wherein said indicia of frame type designation

2   further comprises:  a protocol type.


1   4. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 wherein said indicia of frame type designation

2   further comprises: a subnet value.


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1   5. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 wherein said indicia of frame type designation

2   further comprises:  a virtual local area network established in said computer network.

1   6. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 wherein said indicia of frame type designation

2   further comprises: an IP source address.

1   7. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 wherein said indicia of frame type designation

2   further comprises: an index value associated with a port at which said received frame was

3   received.

1   8. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2   deriving a MAC address from said derived VLAN value and forwarding said received

3   frame to a port for transmission to a destination having said MAC address.

1   9. (ORIGINAL)  A switch to forward frames in a computer network, comprising:

2          a port  to receive a frame (the received frame), said received frame containing one

3   or more indicia of frame type designation;

4          a parsing engine to derive a virtual local area network (derived VLAN) value in

5   response to said one or more indicia of frame type designation;

6          a forwarding data base having said derived VLAN value as input and a destina-

7   tion address as output; and,

8          an output port to transmit said received frame, in response to said derived VLAN

9   value, for transmission to said destination address.

1    10. (ORIGINAL)  The apparatus as in claim 9 further comprising:

2    a forwarding engine for forwarding said received frame in response to said derived

3    VLAN value and said destination address.


1    11. (ORIGINAL)  A computer readable media containing instructions for the practice of

2    the method of claim 1.


1    12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  Electromagnetic signals ~~travelling~~ traveling on a com-

2    puter network, said electromagnetic signals carrying information to practice the method

3    of claim 1.


1    13. (ORIGINAL)  A method of operating a switch for frames in a computer network

2    comprising:

3          using one or more indicia of frame type designation found in the received frame

4    to derive a virtual local area network (derived VLAN) value;

5    using the derived VLAN value in making forwarding decisions.


1    14. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 13 further comprising:

2    controlling broadcast domains in the computer network by forwarding in response to the

3    derived VLAN value.


1    15. (ORIGINAL)  The method of claim 13 further comprising:

2    using an indicia of the receiving port in constructing the derived VLAN value.

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1   16. (ORIGINAL)  A computer readable media containing instructions for the practice of

2   the method of claim 13.

1   17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)  Electromagnetic signals ~~travelling~~ traveling on a com-

2   puter network, said electromagnetic signals carrying information to practice the method

3   of claim 13.